

# The Jefferson Barracks Gazette



October 2012

The Official Newsletter of the Friends of Jefferson Barracks

Volume 24 Issue 4

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## General Meeting October 18 in the Visitors Center at 7:00 PM

The speaker for the October General Meeting is Lynne Jackson, great-great-granddaughter of Dred and Harriet Scott.



The story of Dred Scott is classic in law and national impact. On October 18th, his great-great-granddaughter, Lynne Jackson, will present the background information that has lain dormant for many years as well as new revelations and many interesting side notes that history has yet to record. Join us for an evening of history with a personal touch. Learn about the newly dedicated statue of Dred and Harriet Scott (pictured at left), the Dred Scott Heritage Foundation's education mission, and its emerging project, The Sons and Daughters of Reconciliation.

A brief business meeting will precede the presentation. The meeting is open to the public.

For more information, please call the Visitors Center at (314) 544-5714.

The Friends of Jefferson Barracks is a 501(c) 3 organization and a part of the St Louis County Historic Sites Foundation. Membership in the Friends of Jefferson Barracks is open to all interested individuals, organizations, and corporations. Questions and comments concerning the Friends of Jefferson Barracks or any item in this newsletter should be directed to Friends of Jefferson Barracks, 345 North Road, St. Louis, MO 63125-4259. The Friends of Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, and the editorial staff of this newsletter assume no responsibility for the accuracy of items submitted for publication. The Jefferson Barracks Gazette, published quarterly for our members, is the official publication of the Friends of Jefferson Barracks.

## Recent Events



Charlie Dooley and others cut the ribbon at the opening of the Great Rivers Greenway Trail.



Jack and Wayne set up the booth for the Friends of Jefferson Barracks at the Freedom River Walk.



Several very interesting presentations were made at the Civil War Symposium.

## Missouri, St. Louis, Jefferson Barracks and the Civil War, Part V

By Marc E. Kollbaum, Curator, Jefferson Barracks Historic Park

*(Continued from previous newsletter)*

On August 14, 1861, General John C. Fremont declared martial law in St. Louis and appointed Major Justus McKinstry provost marshal. McKinstry almost immediately suppressed the publication of several newspapers: the *Bulletin*, the *Missourian*, and the *Morning Herald*. McKinstry also established severe penalties for carrying concealed weapons, and ordered gunsmiths and dealers not to sell or give away weapons to anyone without his approval. Theaters, dance halls, and concert halls were ordered closed at 10:30 P.M. during the week and all day on Sunday. On August 26, McKinstry ordered all saloons, except those in major hotels, closed. This closed the Irish bars without disturbing the important citizens or the German beer gardens.

On August 30, General Fremont extended martial law throughout Missouri. Unauthorized persons bearing arms north of a line from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas through Jefferson City to Cape Girardeau would be court-martialed, and they were to be shot if found guilty of hostile intent. Anyone “engaged in treasonable correspondence,” “aiding the enemy,” “fomenting tumults,” or “circulating false reports” were liable to “sudden and severe punishment.”

As stringent as these measures appear, the real bombshell came when Fremont proclaimed that “the property, real and personal, of all persons in the State of Missouri who take up arms against the United States, or who...have taken an active part with their enemies in the field, is declared to be confiscated to the public use, and their slaves, if any they have, are thereby declared free men.” The first slave freed, and the first freed anywhere in the nation by federal authority was Hiram Reed, the property of Thomas L. Snead of St. Louis. Snead served as aide-de-camp to General Sterling Price and as a congressman in the Confederate legislature.

Fremont’s proclamation was met with horror and dismay by President Lincoln, who feared that it would push as-yet loyal slaveholders to join the Confederacy. Before long, Lincoln would relieve Fremont.

While all this was taking place in St. Louis and the surrounding area, events throughout the state continued to develop. By the end of July 1861, Union forces controlled most of Missouri except the southwest corner. North of the Missouri River, skirmishes took place between state militia troops and small bodies of Illinois volunteers that had been stationed at various points to maintain order and guard the railroads. On July 19, General John Pope had assumed command of Northern Missouri, with about 7,000 troops under his command.

Meanwhile, General Nathaniel Lyon had reached Springfield on July 16, in an attempt to catch Governor Jackson and General Price. Lyon immediately ordered Brigadier General Thomas Sweeney and his troops to move south to Forsyth, Missouri, to break up a secession camp. Sweeney accomplished this without opposition.

However, even though they controlled most of the state, things did not look all that rosy for the Union forces in Missouri. General Sterling Price, after much wrangling, talked General Ben McCulloch into bringing his sizeable Confederate forces to Missouri. When united with Price’s Missouri troops, this Confederate army outnumbered Lyon’s troops more than two to one. Then, in southeast Missouri, General Gideon Pillow commanded a Confederate army at New Madrid that appeared ready to march north. General Leonidas Polk was also concentrating troops and constructing formidable defenses across the river in Kentucky.

*(continued on next page)*

## Missouri, St. Louis, Jefferson Barracks and the Civil War, Part V

By Marc E. Kollbaum, Curator, Jefferson Barracks Historic Park

*Continued from previous page)*

On August 1, Lyon's forces, whose principal commands were entrusted to Sweeney, Franz Sigel, and Samuel Sturgis, encamped at Crane's Creek, two miles south of Springfield, Missouri. The next day, they resumed their march and fought a small skirmish at Dug Springs at around five in the afternoon. Lyon then fell back toward Springfield. Although his force was inadequate to meet the enemy, and Fremont was unwilling to send re-enforcements from St. Louis, Lyon determined to make a stand. He did not want to retreat and leave the inhabitants of Springfield unprotected.

On August 9, the Confederate army had reached Wilson's Creek, about nine miles south of Springfield. They had determined to attack the Federal forces, but were delayed due to a steady rain. Lyon, believing that he could gain the element of surprise, thus negating his inferior numbers, attacked the Confederate camp. At first things went well for Lyon's forces as the batteries of James Totten and John Dubois wreaked havoc on the enemy. The Confederates attacked Totten's batteries, and for half an hour the contending lines surged to and fro, neither side giving way. On the left a Confederate battery gained an advantage, but Lyon led his horse along the line to rally the troops. The horse was killed, but Lyon mounted another horse and led his men into the thickest of the fight. On the Federal left, the enemy was pressing hard, but Dubois' battery held. On the right, the First Missouri was being pushed back by an overwhelming force, when Lyon ordered two regiments to its support. They waited at the brow of a hill, and when the Confederate forces were only a few yards away, opened fire. Lyon then ordered a bayonet charge, and he took the lead of an Iowa regiment which had lost its colonel. Lyon fell dead.

Sturgis, upon whom the command devolved, could not decide to advance or retreat. Finally, deciding that an advance would not achieve success, Sturgis ordered a retreat. The Confederate forces had been too cut up to follow, and the remainder of the Union forces withdrew to Springfield. They then moved on to Rolla.

While all of this was taking place, men and materiel continued to be collected in and around St. Louis. On August 12, Brigadier General Samuel R. Curtis took command at Jefferson Barracks. The largest force at the Barracks was the First Missouri Cavalry, commanded by Colonel C.A. Ellis, with 30 officers and 958 men. The U.S. 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry had started organization at the Barracks, but at the time only 45 enlisted men could be counted for duty. William T. Sherman commanded the 13<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment. Also present was the Osage Rifles, consisting of 3 officers and 37 men, and the Kane County Cavalry, consisting of 3 officers and 96 men.

Elsewhere in St. Louis, Fremont established Camp Benton, immediately west of the Fair Grounds. By August 21, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Indiana Infantry and the 39<sup>th</sup> Ohio Infantry had encamped near the Fair Grounds. Other contingents of troops camped at the St. Louis Arsenal and at Lafayette Park.

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Information for Part V has been taken from the Jefferson Barracks Post Returns, the *History of St. Louis City and County* by J. Thomas Scharf, *Lion of the Valley* by James Neal Primm, and *Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War*.

To be continued...

## Upcoming Events

### **Park Ranger Night Hike Series at Jefferson Barracks, Sunday October 14, 7:00-9:00pm**

Meet at Leuthauser Shelter. Strollers are welcome on paved trails. Please bring a flashlight and bug spray. Advanced registration is requested. Walk-ups are welcome. Call (314) 615-4386. \$5 per person.

### **Spooky Stories at the General Daniel Bissell House, Friday October 19, 6:30pm and 8:00pm**

Two story times offered. Limited space available. Advance registration is recommended. Call (314) 544-6224 or email [mkollbaum@stlouisco.com](mailto:mkollbaum@stlouisco.com). \$5 per person.

### **Spooky Stories at Fort Belle Fontaine, Saturday October 20, 6:30pm and 8:00pm**

Enjoy a haywagon ride along a candlelit route and hot chocolate by the fire. Limited space available. Advance registration is recommended. Call (314) 544-6224 or email [mkollbaum@stlouisco.com](mailto:mkollbaum@stlouisco.com). \$7 per person.

### **Spooky Stories at Jefferson Barracks, Saturday October 27, 6:30pm and 8:00pm**

Limited space available. Advance registration is recommended. Call (314) 544-6224 or email [mkollbaum@stlouisco.com](mailto:mkollbaum@stlouisco.com). \$5 per person.

### **Living History Hayrides at Fort Belle Fontaine, Saturday November 3, 10:00am, 12:30pm, and 2:30pm; Sunday November 4, 12:30pm and 2:30pm**

Enjoy a haywagon ride where costumed reenactors explain their uniforms and equipment. Dress for the weather. Limited space available. Advance registration required. Call (314) 544-6224 or email [mkollbaum@stlouisco.com](mailto:mkollbaum@stlouisco.com). \$7 per person.

### **Winter Wonderland at Tilles Park, November 21 through January 1, 5:30-9:30pm**

Tickets are available online at [www.metrotix.com](http://www.metrotix.com) or by telephone at (314) 534-1111 beginning October 1. Prices vary; call or visit the website above for more information.

### **Model Trains and Military Toys at Jefferson Barracks, November 23 through December 30, 12:00-4:00pm**

Open Wednesdays through Sundays in the Visitors Center. See operating HO gauge and O gauge model trains along with military toys. Fun family experience for children of all ages. Free admission; donations accepted. Call (314) 544-5714.

### **Annual Holiday Dinner at Jefferson Barracks, Saturday December 8, 6:00pm**

Enjoy a 5-course meal served by costumed interpreters. This year's meal features barbequed steak or grilled chicken breast as an entrée. Limited space available. Advance registration is required. Call (314) 544-6224 or email [mkollbaum@stlouisco.com](mailto:mkollbaum@stlouisco.com). \$50 per person.

### **Trivia Night at Jefferson Barracks, Saturday January 26, doors open 6:00pm, questions begin 7:00pm**

Advance registration required. Call (314) 615-5270 or email [jmagurany@stlouisco.com](mailto:jmagurany@stlouisco.com). \$100 per team, maximum of 8 people per table.

### **Old Ordnance Room at Jefferson Barracks**

The Civil War in the West exhibit closes November 4.

The United States Navy: WWI and WWII opens February 6, 2013.

### **Powder Magazine Museum at Jefferson Barracks**

The Museum closes December 30 and reopens February 6, 2013.

# Veterans Day Parade

Saturday, November 10 -- Downtown St. Louis

## The Friends of Jefferson Barracks Gift Shop

Come see our new merchandise — just in time for the holidays!

- Sweatshirts
- Long-sleeve t-shirts
- Short-sleeve t-shirts
- Tote bags
- Tack pins
- Posters
- Books
- Vintage cookbooks
- Travel mugs
- Challenge coins
- Rubber duckies
- ... and more!



The Gift Shop in the Visitors Center is open  
Noon to 4:00 PM, Wednesday through Sunday.